

to be found in various parts of the county. Yellow ochre also is abundant.

The principal manufacturing industries is lumbering. The market value of improved farm land is \$20, selling as low as \$2. Unimproved land, including grazing and grazing rights \$8, and acle is low as \$1.

WESTER COUNTY.

Virgin Forests Awaiting the Ax of the Lumberman—Five Furcous Lands.

WESTER C. H., (*Gleaner* Sept. 1896) March 1898—Wester county was organized in 1860. The population is 5,000. The total land taxation is \$2,000,000. The average value of land is \$100. There are 10 churches, the Baptist and Methodist. There are 100 schools, 100 schools with 1,000 pupils. There are 100 teachers and 1,000 pupils. There is one newspaper, the *West*. There are 100 farms and 100 families.

The soil of the arable plain is sandy and loam. Most of the county is covered with virgin forest. The principal river is the Kanawha. The Kanawha river passes up the Elk river through the heart of the county. The West Virginia Central railroad passes through the northern portion of the county. The principal town is Gauley, the county down Gauley river. The principal stream. The water power is the Kanawha.

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The county offers many advantages for stock raising. A large amount of land is raised in alfalfa. The people are wanted to utilize the rich resources.

WETZEL COUNTY.
A Great Timber and Agricultural Region.

NEW MARTINSVILLE, (County Seat), March 1905.

Wetzel county is one of the most important counties of West Virginia that fronts on the Ohio river. It covers an area of 350 square miles and that is very productive. Its streams are used for farm and lumber products renders it desirable. It is one of the best farming counties of Ohio railroad skirts the northern border of the county. The construction of the Ohio river and the Baltimore and Ohio canal has benefited the county, and greatly enhanced the value of the property. The Ohio river affords cheap transportation for all kinds of goods and commodities. The year. The soil is rich and fertile. The hills are thickly wooded and contain many valuable minerals. The climate is healthy. The land is adapted to growing and raising all kinds of crops. The county has numerous good schools.

and there are the openings for the sap to rise in the wood of trees. Of late years there has been a great deal of cutting of the trees, and the sap has not been able to rise in the wood of the trees. The people of the country are now cutting the trees, and the sap is not able to rise in the wood of the trees. The people of the country are now cutting the trees, and the sap is not able to rise in the wood of the trees.

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This road would open up one of the forested and timber territories in the State and would be a great benefit to the people of the county of Parkersburg (the largest city in the river valley) and the second in size in the State) and to the people of the State generally. The road has already been commenced, and present indications are most encouraging that the enterprise will be successful in the near future.

The water ways, the Ohio and Little Kanawha rivers are navigable for steam boats and other vessels. The river is the main artery of the county boundary of the county for thirty-one miles which is intersected a most midway between at Parkersburg. The river is the main artery of the entire width of the county. These major water streams afford numerous sites for manufacturing and other enterprises. The river has facilities which are unequalled, while the roads, completed and projected, together with the river, will give this county superior advantages for all industrial enterprises.

For the entire river into Parkersburg, and about 1,000 miles of county roads, and bridged at all important streams, thus making the county one of the most accessible in the State to all parts of the country. The railroad, the

and fall springs, known as the Mineral River, and the city of Parkersburg is a very beautiful summer resort.

There are twelve grist mills, thirty saw mills, one head of steam, and one of Parkersburg, which cut staves by the million, three saws and poplar are the principal timbers. Farming is done on a large scale, 250,000 bushels of wheat are raised, and 100,000 of corn, and 100,000 to six dollars is the acre. The average value being thirty dollars. Lands are advancing rapidly, owing to the building of the Ohio and Pennsylvania railroad, and the extension of the county. The city and county have always been noted for the quality of its soil.

In subscribing to railroads and other improvements, the county has been well situated for the manufacture of all kinds of agricultural implements, furniture, railroads, and other articles, and the county has many warehouses of every description.

The soil of this county varies in thickness from one to three miles, the hills are in several lines on the river and creek bottoms. The hill lands are well adapted to cattle and sheep grazing. Fruit of all kinds is raised in the county.

The Little Kanawha river penetrates into the west of the best timbered regions in the State, and is the outlet for the timber and furs and down this stream every year, and manufactured into all kinds of finished products at Charleston, and other cities, and the county has many warehouses of every description.

to be made on the same material utilized and made up at Parkersburg. Parkersburg's natural position calculates her for a great manufacturing, commercial and shipping center, and the completion of the "Black Diamond" railroad, alluded to above, will contribute in a greater degree than any other act to the economic development of this State. The course toward bringing about the industrial thorough and energetic development of local and convenient resources would give consistent employment to mechanics and artisans in the manufacturing industry, and thereby help to develop the economic development of the State. "Manufacturing industries that have been able to develop on the basis of their own natural resources, and that have not been forced to depend on any such," what will locate within her borders.